

# One for the Books

Angus members amend charter and bylaws, honor achievements, and name champions in Louisville, Ky.

by Corinne Patterson & Shauna Rose Hermel

Delegates to the 121st Annual Meeting of the American Angus Association made history Nov. 15, 2004, in Louisville, Ky., when they amended the charter and bylaws of the organization. More than 500 members gathered Monday afternoon in the South Wing of the Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center (KFEC). 2004 Association President Joe Elliott, Adams, Tenn., presided over the meeting as 334 delegates from 40 states, the District of Columbia and Canada checked in to conduct the Association's official business.

The meeting featured reports by Elliott and 2004 Treasurer Ben Eggers of Mexico, Mo., the election of five directors to the Board, and Executive Vice President John Crouch's annual report to the membership.

Jot Hartley, Vinita, Okla., presented a report unanimously supported by the Board of Directors that proposed amending the Association's charter and bylaws. "You will recall that one year ago, Steve Brooks stood before you and previewed that one of the things that needed to be done and worked on in the year ahead was the modernization of

our charter, our bylaws and our rules," Hartley said.

Elliott assigned the task of reviewing the documents to the 2004 Member Services Committee, chaired by Hartley and consisting of Leo Baker, Saint Onge, S.D.; Al DeClerk, Pocahontas, Ark.; Bob Schlutz, Columbus Junction, Iowa; and Richard Tokach, Saint Anthony, N.D.

Hartley noted that the charter was penned in 1883 and last amended in 1959, when the name was changed to the American Angus Association. He walked delegates through the proposed changes, which had been mailed to them for review prior to the meeting.

"As our clause is now drafted it could be interpreted to limit the purpose of our Association solely to maintaining the purity of the breed," Hartley said, calling it a disastrous interpretation that would exclude programs and services such as the *Angus Journal*, the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB), AngusSource and Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR). These programs serve to



PHOTOS BY SHAUNA ROSE HERMEL

► Angus Foundation President Paul Hill shares how donors to the Angus Foundation "Build on the Vision" to support education, youth and research.

promote the breed but have little to do with breed purity.

The amendment required a two-thirds approval of the delegates in attendance. It passed with no opposition on a standing vote.

In addressing the need to update the bylaws, Hartley told delegates the Board was proposing "substantive changes in the organization of our current bylaws, but overall relatively few significant changes in meaning or content. Our basic goal was to rewrite the bylaws that seemed cumbersome or difficult to read and to reformat them in a way that made them reader-friendly."

With only a few comments from the delegates and no opposition, the amendments to the bylaws were accepted, requiring a simple majority by the delegates in attendance. The updated charter and bylaws will be published in the 2005 *Breeder's Reference Guide*, which will be published as an insert in the March *Angus Journal*.

The delegates elected Minnie Lou Bradley, Memphis, Texas, president and Eggers vice president of the Association for 2005. Hartley was elected treasurer in an earlier voting by the Board.

Re-elected to serve their second three-year terms on the Board were Tokach and Jay King, Rock Falls, Ill. Jarold Callahan, Yukon, Okla.; Norman Garton, Nevada, Mo.; and Phil Trowbridge, Ghent, N.Y., were elected to their first three-year terms.

The Annual Meeting was one of many

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► **Above:** Steve Patton of Freeman, S.D., evaluated 144 head in the junior show Sunday morning. Complete results, including photos of division winners, are presented in the Showing insert in this issue and can be viewed online at [www.angusjournal.com/shows.html](http://www.angusjournal.com/shows.html).

► **Right:** The American Angus Auxiliary conducted a silent auction in the hallway of the Executive West during Angus events at the NAILE.





► “Ladies and gentlemen, the hardest place to stay in business is on top,” 2004 President Joe Elliott told those in attendance at the Annual Meeting. “We must remember that the future is not something that you enter; the future is something you create.”



► **Above:** Member Services Committee Chairman Jot Hartley reviewed with the delegates the proposed amendments to the Association charter and bylaws.

► **Right:** University classmates Richard Willham (left) and Dave McMahon (right) escort Minnie Lou Bradley to the podium after she was elected president of the American Angus Association. “It is the people who make an organization,” said Bradley. “Our product, Angus, can only be as good as its masters. We are entering our 122nd year as an Association of purebred Angus breeders. That in itself says something about our people and our breed.”



Angus events at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville Nov. 13-16, 2004.

### Foundation builds on the vision

Major contributors to the Angus Foundation gathered Saturday evening, Nov. 13, to celebrate the success stories of the program, share visions of the future and do a little fund-raising. An all-star lineup of supporters shared their experiences and thank-yous with invited guests. Included were Eddie Sydenstricker, the first president of the first state junior Angus Association in the United States; Wravenna Phipps, 2004 Miss American Angus and Foundation Scholarship Award recipient; Jennifer Ourso, 2004-2005 National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) chairman; and Jennifer Beck, former NJAA chairman.

Milford Jenkins, director of development for the Angus Foundation, and Paul Hill, president of the Angus Foundation Board of Directors, shared their aspirations for what the organization can do for the breed and Association members through education, youth and research.

Capping off the evening was the auction of Angus registration number 15,000,000. The elite number was purchased for \$25,000 by David McMahon of Belle Point Ranch, Lavaca, Ark.; Callahan; and Dave Gust Sr. of Circle A Ranch, Iberia, Mo. Auctioneer Tommy

Barnes, Gallion, Ala., cried the auction. Proceeds will go to the Angus Foundation. For more information, visit the Angus Foundation Web site at [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org).

### Auxiliary action

Events at Louisville are the highlight of the American Angus Auxiliary’s year, with its Annual Meeting and Annual Breakfast taking center stage.

Representatives from several states and the officer team gathered for an Executive Committee meeting Saturday afternoon. Action-only items were discussed, including the treasurer’s report and the scholarship program. Members had the opportunity to voice their concerns and opinions, with no new changes made.

The Auxiliary Annual Meeting followed with a full report from committee chairwomen present. Amy Iman Bellis, 2004 president from Missouri, presented a slide show of the year’s highlights.

The Auxiliary Breakfast was enjoyed by nearly 300 attendees Sunday morning. After the buffet-style meal, decorated by the Missouri auxiliary, award winners were recognized. The Auxiliary’s mission is to support Angus youth, and the organization does so by sponsoring nearly 20 different awards and scholarships presented at the NJAS each summer.

Bellis passed the president’s gavel to Shirley Williams, Van Buren, Ark. Sharee Sankey, Council Grove, Kan., became the new president-elect, and Mary Greiman, Garner, Iowa, took on secretary-treasurer responsibilities. Nancy Jo Sullivan, Park City, Utah, will continue her role as advisor.

The Auxiliary presented Lois Foster, Niles, Mich., with the Distinguished Woman award. Foster became the 21st honoree, in the 51 years of the organization, to receive the award for her years of dedication. She’s the organization’s historian and served as its president from 1989-90.

Sandra McCurry, Mount Hope, Kan., and the Program and Hospitality Committee provided magical entertainment presented by Dave Cottrell, a musical magician from Kentucky. Paige



► Anton Pelser invited the membership to the Ninth World Angus Forum to be in Cape Town, South Africa, March 16-20, 2005. Pelser gave an overview of the conference and optional post-conference tours. Registration is available online at [www.africa-at-leisure.com](http://www.africa-at-leisure.com).

Wallace and Holly Bellis, both of Missouri, sang for the group.

### Focusing on a leader

The Miss American Angus (MAA) contest is one of the most visible programs offered through the Auxiliary. Mary and Emily McCurry, Burrton, Kan., are chairwomen of the committee and hosted five young women who vied for the title in Louisville. This year's contestants included Kristen Oaks, Calhoun, La.; Dana May, Mineral Point, Wis.; Kindra Wood, Holly Pond, Ala.; Ricka Boehmer, Williamston, Mich.; and Chelsey Warfield, Andersonville, Tenn.

Judges for the 2005 MAA competition included Bill Borrer, Tehama Angus Ranch, Gerber, Calif.; Elsie Covey, Alderhurst Farms, Snohomish, Wash.; and Jill (Sommers) Harker, former MAA, Hope, Ind. After presenting a speech, answering an impromptu question and participating in a personal interview, Warfield was named the 2005 MAA during the bull show Monday.

### Informational forum

Sunday afternoon, the American Angus Association hosted an informational forum featuring Association programs and services. CAB President Jim Riemann presented a situational outlook for the *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) brand. He included potential areas of concern, most notably reduced exports and lower CAB-acceptance rates.

Angus Productions Inc. (API) General Manager Terry Cotton provided an overview of services available to members. The *Angus Journal* and the *Angus Beef Bulletin* are the most visible API services, but others summarized by Cotton included development and publishing of promotional tools through the Special Services and Web Marketing departments.

Lou Ann Adams, director of information services (IS) for the Association, provided an update on services available online through AAA Login. Members can log in at [www.angusonline.org](http://www.angusonline.org) to access online services such as a list of buyers to whom they have sold and transferred animals, an account history, DNA options, report forms, and online registration and transfer options.

New prediction tools available in the Spring 2005 *Sire Evaluation Report* were summarized by Sally Northcutt, director of genetic research, and Bill Bowman, director of performance programs. The new tools include a \$Value Index for weaned calf value (\$W), a value to predict differences in cow energy requirements (\$EN), and two new expected progeny differences — heifer calving ease direct (CED) and heifer calving ease maternal (CEM).

The meeting set the stage for a series of

Angus Outreach Seminars being conducted by the Association this winter and spring. For more information about the forum in Louisville, see "Better Than Good" on page 176 and watch for articles in upcoming issues.

### Industry leaders seek election

Room 101 in the South Wing of the KFEC was packed with Angus producers from across the nation as six candidates introduced themselves in their quests to gain election to the American Angus Association Board of Directors. While many state caucuses gathered for their own meetings with candidates throughout the event, the open meeting provided opportunity for all Association members to learn about those seeking a position on the Board.

Seeking re-election were Mark Gardiner of Kansas; Jay King of Illinois and Richard Tokach of North Dakota. Seeking their first terms as Directors were Jarold Callahan of Oklahoma; Norman Garton of Missouri; and Phil Trowbridge of New York.

Each candidate shared with the crowd his credentials and desires to run for the Board. Following his speech, each individual answered the same four questions that were submitted by the audience prior to prepared presentations. The questions regarded industry issues along with the future of the Angus breed.

### Reception features embryo auction

Available tables were hard to find as members gathered for food and conversation at Sunday evening's Angus Reception. Auctioneer Barnes quieted the crowd long enough to take bids on two embryo packages donated to the American Angus Auxiliary. The package provided by Gardiner Angus Ranch, Ashland, Kan., was purchased by Jim McCauley of Clover Paddocks, Burlington, N.C., and Russell Wood of Cedar Bay Farms, Willow Spring, N.C. The embryo package donated by Thomas Angus Ranch, Baker City, Ore., was purchased by Joan and Blanford Pierce of Woodlawn Farms, Creston, Ill. In all, \$4,900 was raised.



PHOTO BY CORINNE PATTERSON

► **Above:** After presenting a speech, answering an impromptu question and participating in a personal interview Sunday, Chelsey Warfield, Andersonville, Tenn., was named the 2005 MAA during the bull show Monday. One of the three judges, Elsie Covey, Alderhurst Farms, Snohomish, Wash., places a pin on her lapel as one of the many gifts MAA receives.

► **Left:** To pick their champions, the father-son team of Gary (pictured) and Jeff Dameron evaluated 219 entries in the super-point Roll of Victory show designated as the 2005 National Angus Show.



► **Banquet speaker Rick Rigsby** motivated those in attendance at the Annual Banquet Monday evening to try to make an impact in life rather than trying to make just an impression.

### 2005 National Angus Show

Angus enthusiasts led 219 head before the father-son team of Gary Dameron, Lexington, Ill., and Jeff Dameron, Normal, Ill. The NAILE is a super-point Roll of Victory (ROV) show, and it also served as the 2005 National Angus Show. See page 180 of the Louisville coverage in this issue for abbreviated show results. The Winter 2005 Showring insert in this issue reports complete results, including photos of division winners. Winners can also be viewed online at [www.angusjournal.com/shows.html](http://www.angusjournal.com/shows.html).

### Annual Banquet

During Monday's social hour preceding the Annual Awards Banquet, Tom Burke, Kurt

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Schaff and Rance Long of the American Angus Hall of Fame, Smithville, Mo., offered a book signing for *Angus Legends: Volume 1 — The Greatest Bulls in Angus History*. Authored by the three men, this new book is available exclusively through the American Angus Auxiliary, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Auxiliary's scholarship fund. The book can be ordered online at [www.angussalebarn.com](http://www.angussalebarn.com).

After the social hour, guests filtered across the hall and into the Executive West Main Ballroom, where Crouch welcomed the crowd. Angus enthusiasts enjoyed a meal featuring CAB prime rib provided by U.S. Premium Beef (USPB).

Current and past American Angus Association Officers and Directors were recognized, Association and Auxiliary notables addressed the group, and achievements were recognized. Emily McCurry, Burrton, Kan., was presented the Auxiliary-sponsored Barbara Smalstig Outstanding Leadership Award. Three



PHOTOS BY SHEILA STANNARD

► **Above:** Emily McCurry (center), Burrton, Kan., receives the Auxiliary-sponsored Barbara Smalstig Outstanding Leadership Award at the Annual Banquet. Presenting the award are Fred Smalstig (left) and Tyler Grissom, NJAA leadership director.



► **Above:** Champion Hill Georgina 3080, owned by Austin John, Schertz, Texas, was named the 2004 ROV Show Heifer of the Year. Pictured are (from left) 2005 MAA Chelsea Warfield; Paul Hill, Bidwell, Ohio; 2004 MAA Wravenna Phipps; and Austin, Leonard and Debra John, all of Schertz, Texas.

► **Right:** Greg Smith, Elida, N.M., received the 2004 ROV Breeder of the Year Award. Pictured are (from left) Smith; 2004 American Angus Association President Joe Elliott; and Chad Oates, Elida, N.M.

members were inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation: Tom Burke, Smithville, Mo.; Richard Janssen, Ellsworth, Kan.; and Ralph Sydenstricker (posthumously), formerly of Mexico, Mo.

Banquet speaker Rick Rigsby of Texas A&M University polished off the evening with a motivating presentation encouraging members to strive to make an impact in life rather than just an impression (see "Up Front," on page 34).

### Board meeting

The Board of the American Angus Association meets twice during the lineup of Angus events at the NAILE. A new committee structure was adopted at the Board's meeting on Saturday, providing four committees rather than six. The intent of the change was to reduce duplication in presentations that were being made to more than one committee, to allow greater Board participation in each committee at the committee level and to even the workload among committees. The change also aligns more closely to the Association's new structure adopted in May 2004. At Tuesday's meeting, which followed the election of delegates for the coming year, committee and Board assignments were set. Committees for 2005 include:

**Executive Committee** — Minnie Lou Bradley, chairman; Ben Eggers; Jot Hartley; Paul Hill; Dave Smith; and Richard Tokach.



► **Above:** LaGrand Roth Cruiser 254, owned by LaGrand Angus Ranch, Freeman, S.D., and Peter Masters, Bashaw, Alta., Canada, was named the 2004 ROV Show Bull of the Year. Pictured are (from left) Terry Cotton, API; Steve and Kelli Patton, both of Freeman, S.D.; and NJAA Board member Joanna Olson.



**Activities & Events** — Paul Hill, chairman; Jay King, vice chairman; Leo Baker; Al DeClerk; Norman Garton; Robert Schlutz; John Schurr; and Philip Trowbridge.

**Information & Data Management** — Richard Tokach, chairman; Joe Hampton, vice chairman; Gregg Blythe; Jarold Callahan; Bill Davis; Jot Hartley; Dave Smith; and Rob Thomas.

**Industry Relations** — Dave Smith, chairman; Bill Davis, vice chairman; Al DeClerk; Norman Garton; John Schurr; Rob Thomas; Richard Tokach; and Philip Trowbridge.

**Finance & Planning** — Jot Hartley, chairman; Robert Schlutz, vice chairman; Leo Baker; Gregg Blythe; Jarold Callahan; Joe Hampton; Paul Hill; and Jay King.

The Boards of the following subsidiaries include:

**Angus Foundation** — Paul Hill, president; Dave Smith, vice president; Richard Wilson, secretary/treasurer; Bill Davis; Jay King; and Bob Schlutz.

**Angus Productions Inc.** — Ben Eggers, chairman; John Crouch, vice chairman; Terry Cotton, president; Richard Wilson, secretary/treasurer; Gregg Blythe; Bill Davis; Joe Hampton; Jot Hartley; Paul Hill; and Jay King

**Certified Angus Beef LLC** — Richard Tokach, chairman; John Crouch, vice chairman; Jim Riemann, president; Richard Wilson, secretary/treasurer; Minnie Lou Bradley; Ben Eggers; Jot Hartley; Bob Norton; John Schurr; and Jay King. (Note: While members were appointed to the CAB Board in Louisville, the election of officers occurred at a CAB Board meeting in Wooster, Ohio, Dec. 8-9.)

Richard Tokach was elected to be the Board's National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) representative; Dave Smith was elected chaplain; and Paul Donnelly was elected parliamentarian.

### AIMS workshops

Angus breeders seeking computer assistance with Microsoft® Windows®, Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) or Crystal Report Writer attended one or more of three workshops throughout the four-day Angus schedule. Scott Johnson,

AIMS director, offered workshops for new and experienced software users, specifically breeders using AIMS — a program designed by the Association to organize cattle records using industry-standard methods.

